future with the assistance of private sector;

(b) if so, the number of private parties approached and terms and location thereof; and

(c) the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL): (a) to (c) The Pillaiperumal Nallur Combined Cycle Gas Turbine Power Project of 300 MW capacity is being developed by M/s Dyna Makowski Power Company, Madras — utilising the gas available in Cauvery Basin. The Power Purchase Agreement has already been initiated. CEA has cleared this project in principle and fuel linkage for the project has been obtained from Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Government of India.

Government of Tamil Nadu has informed that a MOU has been signed for development of 2000 MW Gas based power project at Vembar with M/s CRSS Capital Corporation of Houston, USA and M/s Intech Global Resources Inc., USA and another MOU has been signed for development of 1000 MW Gas based power project at Gummidipoondi with M/s GVK Enterprises, Hyderabad.

TNEB has proposed to establish an additional 5 MW Gas Diesel Engine Unit at Narimanam under State Sector utilising the surplus gas.

महेश्वर पन बिजली परियोजना

320. **श्री अजीत जोगी** : क्या विद्युत मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या मध्य प्रदेश में नर्मदा नदी पर स्थापित की जाने वाली महेश्वर पन बिजली परियोजना गैर-सरकारी क्षेत्र को सौंपी गई है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्सम्बन्धी ब्यौरा क्या है और उसके क्या कारण हैं ?

विद्युत मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्रीमती उर्मिला चिमनभाई पटेल) : (क) जी, हां ।

(ख) मध्य प्रदेश सरकार ने सूचित किया है कि संसाधनों की कमी और राज्य में बिजली की मांग में वृद्धि को ध्यान में रखते हुए तथा विद्युत क्षेत्र में निजी क्षेत्र निवेश की प्रोत्साहित करने की भारत सरकार की नीति के अनुरूप, उन्होंने निजी क्षेत्र में महेश्वर एच.ई.पी. (400 मे.वा.) के क्रियान्वयन का कार्य मैसर्स एस. कुमार्स को सौंपा है ।

Investment by US Companies in the Power Sector

321· SHRI G· Y· KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the outcome of the talks held with the visiting US Energy Secretary, particularly on the issue of counter-guarantees by India;

(b) what are the prospects for investment by the US companies in the power Sector in India and the additional power generation capacity likely to be generated;

(c) whether there had been US pressure on Government to expedite the processing of counter-guarantee terms for seven power projects mooted by US Companies; and

(d) if so, what alternatives are being worked out to replace the counter-guarantee stimulation particularly ensuring punctual payment by the State Electricity Boards through an Escrow A/c.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL): (a) During the recent visit of the